



RICH WITH PROGRESS
BEAUMONT
FIRE-RESCUE

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2010

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Beaumont Fire/Rescue Services
 City of Beaumont

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

Charles Mullins, Assistant Fire Chief

Danny Cross, Fire Administrator

Jack Maddox, Chief Fire Marshal

Keith Nolen, Chief Training Officer

Keith Stewart, Chief Communications Officer

*Carol Gary, Executive Director-
 Fire Museum of Texas*

Chief's Message

I don't envy the position our City Council persons are in right now. The economy is down, and this has adversely affected practically everyone. There are some very difficult economic, political and philosophical issues that they will have to wrestle with, and very hard choices that they will have to make. Ultimately, no matter what decisions are made, there will be people who are negatively impacted or who just plain disagree. I'm sure that each of them are asking themselves, "What is the right thing to do?" I know that this question plays virtually non-stop in my mind every single day.

The Fire Chief's job boils down to doing his/her very best to facilitate consistent response coverage and service delivery to all citizens within the established service area (City + contract service areas). This must be accomplished considering the level of capabilities in each established service line (firefighting, medical, technical rescue, hazmat). Level of capability is directly related to resource levels, which will always be limited.

Practically speaking, this means that firefighters should be able to arrive at any given location in town within a set amount of time. The National Fire Protection Association's standard for the first fire suppression unit on scene to provide firefighting services is 5:20 minutes from the time

of dispatch. The same standard for first responder emergency medical services is 5:00 minutes from the time of dispatch. The target for meeting or exceeding these standards is 90% of the time.

Once units arrive, they should be able to provide a predictable set of services that meet a consistent quality standard. This is a challenge every day and normally is a real balancing act. To balance customer needs with worker safety needs and mandates, a managed risk approach has to be applied to basically every situation encountered. Workers must understand the limitations of their equipment and crews, so that they are relatively certain of the level of risk that can be undertaken without compounding what may already be a tragedy. Operating within a given level of capabilities relates directly to availability of resources.

So how does a Fire Chief figure out what the right thing to do is on any given day, much less when faced with hard choices based on resource limitations? I can't speak for anyone but myself, but I fall back on the basic elements described above: 1) striving for consistent response and service delivery for all citizens, and 2) fiercely advocating worker safety through a managed risk approach that hinges on the most effective and efficient use of available resources. Beyond these things, communicating our

limitations effectively so that taxpayers and their representatives are aware of the types and levels of services we are able to provide within a given level of resource, is critical to the department's credibility and the community's understanding of the important work that we do. These challenges are most definitely all *works in progress* and require a commitment to continual improvement and customer service.

Here at the fire department, we're used to wrestling with tough conditions. We deal with life threatening situations every single day. We are dedicated to both our services and our citizens. Our focus will always remain on doing our very best to protect life and property. Whatever decisions the Council ultimately makes and regardless of the effect they have on the department, we will make it through this. We always have. We always will. Thank you for your continued efforts, team work, and dedication.

Administrative & Support Services

Personnel Updates:

- Retirements: Congratulations to Kenny Hunt who retired on March 1 with 30 years of service. Thanks for your dedication and service!
- New Hires: Six new Firefighter/EMTs started their careers with the department on March 1. They are Chris Isenblitter, David Carpenter, Thomas

Dixon, Justin Guynes, Max Clamon, and Nick Zumo.

Special Teams Updates:

- Haz Mat Team: The HMRT Advisory Group held its quarterly meeting on March 31. Brandon Williams and Bryan Droptini will be placed on active team assignment when their probationary year is complete.
- Special Thanks: To the members of the Golf Tournament Planning Committee - Ted Hillin, Charlie Cox, Jack Maddox, Chris Singler, and Carol Gary. You all did a fantastic job! Everyone had a great time and the Firefighter's Memorial and Museum really came out the winner.
- The monthly extended leave update report was submitted to Human Resources on March 31.
- Chief Huff worked with a number of personnel counseling and related issues during the month.

Grants Updates:

- 2010 Assistance to Firefighter's Grant: The Management Team has been discussing resource needs that may qualify for this year's grant. Items being researched at this time are CO monitors for rehab, mobile command organization cabinets, gear lockers, and a new wildland/urban interface apparatus. This grant requires a 20% match an items must be

pre-approved by Council prior to our submission of the grant.

- 2010 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant: Chief Maddox will coordinate with Museum Director Carol Gary to determine what qualifying projects may be feasible for submission under this program.

Advisory Group/Committee Updates:

All advisory group/committee meeting minutes are available on the G: drive. Please access [G:\Shared Folder\Meeting Minutes](#) to access detailed meeting minutes.

The Medical Services Advisory Group met on March 1. The discussed Levabuterol inventories and group continued assessing and reworking QA/QI program.

The Tactical Operations Advisory Group met on March 31. The group worked on the update and combining of UOGs 202.05 A & B into a single SOG 203.03-Use of Protective Clothing and Equipment. The high rise firefighting SOG was also discussed.

The Safety Committee met on March 2. The group discussed Rescue 58's response to structure fires in lieu of Engine 11, due to minimum staffing guidelines. The recommendation was made that Rescue 58 proceed to the scene and assume Command functions if they are the first arriving unit. There were three (3) on-duty lost-time injuries and seven (7) on-duty no lost-time injuries reviewed. There were no vehicle accident reviewed. There was one (1) exposure report reviewed.

The Rapid Intervention Group did not meet but facilitated classes at the BEST Complex.

The Positive Pressure Ventilation/Attack Advisory Group did not meet in March.

The Diversity & Inclusion Council met did not meet in March.

The Pre-Planning Advisory Group did not meet in March.

Policy Updates:

New or updated S O G s / R u l e s a n d Regulations/Performance Benchmarks that became effective during the month include:

- R&R 102.05 - Personal Appearance & Dress Code
- SOG 303.03 - Use of Traffic Safety Vest

Member comments and the disposition from the Fire Chief that were distributed concerning SOGs/R&Rs/PBs included:

- R&R 103.03 - Accrual & Use of Leave Time
- SOG 200.03 - After Action Reviews
- SOG 202.04 - Residential Structure Firefighting

SOGs/R&Rs/PBs that were distributed for member review and comment during the month included:

- 207.01 - Hurricane Preparedness & Response

Pilot Programs:

- R&R 103.01B - Sick Leave (PILOT)
- SOG 105.02 - Member Medical Records (PILOT)

Development of SOGs and Performance Benchmarks will be ongoing.

Administrative Update:

Danny Cross, Fire Administrator

Activities for March included budget meetings on the 3rd, 9th, 17th, 24th, and 31st where management team members identified and prioritized department Technology Services, Building Services, Fleet, Personnel, and Capital and General Funds requests for the upcoming budget year 2011.

Administrative staff also met with Local 399's Executive Board on March 10 and attended a March of Dimes meeting on March 4. The March of Dimes campaign will conclude on April 24 with a walk at Lamar University. Persons interested in participating may contact Danny Cross at 880-3937 or by e-mail at dcross@ci.beaumont.tx.us.

On March 25, several Administrative staff members attended a "Get Motivated" seminar, along with representatives from Community Risk Reduction, Training, and Operations divisions.

Other projects included obtaining an additional revenue account line in the Chart of Accounts to segregate "restricted" donations from TCLEOSE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education) and entering

department extinguishers and key secure devices into Firehouse Inventory.

Logistics Update:

Captain Bill Lambert, Program Manager

Eight accident reports were reviewed for the month of March. Two NFIRS reports had been entered into Firehouse without the accompanying Casualty Reports. Notification of the responsible parties resulted in the completion of the missing reports.

Captain Lambert compiled and submitted four weekly call-out reports for the Streets and Drainage and Traffic Departments and attended one Medical Services Advisory Group meeting. Additionally, he attended three Management Team Meetings as information was being compiled in preparation for upcoming submission of budget requests. Identifying and organizing facility maintenance requests is a major task and involves a significant amount of time and effort to identify the needs and costs for repair or renovation of fourteen facilities. Additionally, the projects must be identified as those that require the efforts and funding of the Building Services Department and those that can be done internally with purchase of building materials.

Many repairs or renovations are needed at Department facilities and have been requested numerous times over the past years during the annual Building Services budget request. Due to limited funding and personnel, many have been denied. In recent months, assistance provided by the Community Service Workers of the Federal Correctional Complex has had a major impact on the completion of many of these projects.

Repair and renovation of Fire Headquarters, Training and Fire Station 7 over the past five months has resulted in phenomenal results in the appearance and operation of the structure and equipment at these facilities. In an effort to continue this program, Captain Lambert requested and obtained permission from the Fire Management Team for additional funding to remodel the kitchen at Fire Station 7. For those that are not aware, the kitchen at Station 7 is circa 1955 with cabinets having broken doors, hinges, and shelving. The wood paneling and cabinets, both dark in color, present an image of filth, even after detailed cleaning. The remodel includes sheet rock and paint over the current paneling, replacement of the cabinets, counter tops, and sink, and refurbishment of the kitchen table and benches. The anticipated construction time for this project is about 24 days. This project should begin soon, following cabinet construction, material purchases, and scheduling with Station 7 personnel.

Fire Purchasing entered six requisitions into the system in March. The requisitions were for rescue tools, SCBA maintenance and repair, fire hose, and a combustible gas indicator. There were no travel requests prepared for the month due to budget restrictions associated with reduction in sales tax revenue. Additionally, three check requests were completed and submitted for certification fees, testing supplies, and museum materials. Staff also reconciled 13 credit card statements for review and

approval by Chief Huff.

Supply personnel received and processed 13 work requests for the month of March for submission to Building Services. They also obtained materials and worked with Federal Community Service Workers to make repairs and renovations at Fire Headquarters and Fire Station 7. Eighteen pieces of protective clothing were sent out for cleaning, annual inspection, and repair by Lion Total Care. Several new Beaumont EMS employees were fitted with out-of-date protective clothing for issue through BEMS. Although not approved for firefighting, out-of-date protective clothing that is still in good condition is frequently issued to BEMS employees for use at accident scenes and other situations where protective clothing may be necessary. Supply personnel also set up and took down tables and chairs for three functions, two of them at locations other than Fire Headquarters. Additionally, Operations personnel were rotated through the Supply Office over a three-day period in order to be sized for new turnout gear. Alternate dates need to be established to size those personnel that were on vacation or Kelly Day during the previous sizing period. Sizing of staff and Chief Officers was begun for the annual uniform purchase.

Emergency Operations

Emergency Response:

Emergency Operations personnel responded to 1,390 calls for service in March. The calls for service are broken down in the following National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) categories:

Fires: 69 calls for fire response services, 26 of which were structure

fires. Fire responses accounted for 4.96% of the total calls for service, with losses estimated at \$231,420.

Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire): 4 calls for overpressure rupture, explosion, no fire. This accounted for .28% of the total calls for service.

Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Incidents: 801 calls for rescue and EMS services response. This accounted for 57.58% of total calls for service.

Hazardous Conditions (no fire): 69 calls for response to hazardous conditions. This accounted for 4.96% of the total calls for service.

Service Calls: 144 responses for service calls. This accounted for 10.35% of the total calls for service.

Good Intent Calls: 93 responses for good intent calls. This accounted for 6.68% of the total calls for service.

False Alarm & False Calls: 206 responses for false alarms or false calls. This accounted for 14.80% of the total calls for service.

Severe Weather & Natural Disaster Calls: 0 response for severe weather calls. This accounted for 0% of the total calls for service.

Special Incident Type: 4 responses on special incident type calls for service. This accounted for .28% of the total calls for service.

Public Relations and Education:

During the month of March, Operations Division personnel conducted four fire safety and public education programs and station tours.

Fire Hydrant Maintenance:

Fire Hydrant Maintenance in March consisted primarily of testing of new or repaired hydrants during the month. Chief Ivan Bertrand has been assigned oversight of the fire hydrant maintenance program, and annual maintenance will begin April 1.

Hose Maintenance:

Chief Hebert and Captain Hillin coordinated efforts on C-Shift to test all 2.5 inch hose and adjust inventory level on all apparatus to the standardized level of 800 ft. Chief Hebert will oversee the hose maintenance program going forward. A and B-Shifts will conduct testing on all remaining attack and supply hose over the next couple of months.

Preplanning Program:

Chief Jerry Lyons has been assigned responsibility for the pre-incident planning program. Work continued in March to coordinate activities necessary to initiate and establish this program in three phases over three months. Phase one will be the training of personnel on fire flow testing and data entry into Firehouse, which will take place in April. Phase two will be the training of personnel in information gathering and data entry will take place in April into early May. Phase three will be the assignment of four target locations per company and the beginning of pre-incident planning by Fire Company personnel and the District Chief, which will take place beginning in May.

Response Operations, Tours, Training and Drills:

The new 105 ft. Quint 5 went into service on March 1. This unit replaced the old 75 ft. Quint 5, which will go into service in April after a thorough mechanical assessment and repairs are performed.

Meetings:

Assistant Chief and Deputies attended the Management Team meetings March 3 and 31 to begin work on 2011 budget. Daily minimum staffing levels were reduced in February from forty-seven to forty-four to reduce overtime expenditures, due to the reduced, anticipated sales tax revenues expected by the City. The removal of Snorkle 7/Rescue 50, and the reduction of service from Station 11, was directed to accomplish this staffing reduction. The processing of six probationary personnel began work in February with assignment to the Operations shifts March 11, 12, and 13. These newly assigned personnel should improve the ability of the Department to maintain staffing levels of forty-seven a larger portion of the time. The Operations Division Chief Officers attended staff meetings on March 16, 17, and 18.

Community Risk Reduction (Fire Marshal's Office)

Code Enforcement Update:

Captain Brad Penisson, Program Manager

During the month of March, Fire Inspectors conducted 239 inspections consisting of 125 general inspections and 114 inspections for certificate of occupancy. There were 331 code violations identified during these inspections. Twenty-one of the inspections generated \$1,250 in inspection fees. In addition, there

were 11 fire-alarm systems tested, 5 sprinkler systems tested, and 1 fixed fire extinguishing system tested. Permits issued included nine tent permits and 4 tank permits. Personnel inspected all food booths at the YMBL Fair prior to the opening of the Fair.

Community Risk Reduction personnel were involved in 268 consultations by phone, 127 office consultations, and 119 consultations in the field.

Plan reviews for March included 11 fire alarm systems, 7 fixed fire extinguishing systems, 2 sprinkler systems, and 39 building plans.

Investigations Update:

Captain Earl White, Program Manager

Fire Investigators were involved in 66 fire and safety investigations during the month. Eight of the fires investigated were determined to be arson.

There were 27 complaints investigated concerning possible fire code violations.

Significant Investigations:

- 3/01/10 - 3980 N. Major - Structure Fire Apartment Office - Arson
- 3/02/10 - 1310 Pennsylvania - Bomb Threat - Richard Milburn Academy
- 3/02/10 - 2825 S. 12th - Structure Fire - Accidental - Dryer
- 3/02/10 - 2495 Gulf - Structure Fire - Accidental - Fan Motor
- 3/04/10 - 5345 Fannett - Trailer Fire - Accidental - Electrical Short
- 3/04/10 - 3195 Medical Center Dr - Structure Fire -

- Accidental - Fan Motor
3/05/10 - 2650 McFaddin
- Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Cooking Fire
3/07/10 - 2835 Gulf -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Cooking Fire
3/08/10 - 1152 Wilde-
meadow - Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Burn Victim
3/08/10 - 3515 College -
Commercial Structure
Fire - Economy Inn -
Arson (Suspect
Identified)
- 3/08/10 - 2218 Neches -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Trash Can
3/10/10 - 2690 IH 10 E -
Commercial Structure
Fire - Travel Inn - Arson
(Suspect Identified)
- 3/10/10 - 2495 Gulf -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Fan Motor
3/10/10 - 1540 Crockett -
Unauthorized Burning
- 3/14/10 - 2405 Primrose -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Bathroom
Heater
- 3/14/10 - Neches/Emma -
Trash Fire (Juveniles)
- 3/14/10 - 1150 Emma -
Trash Fire (Juveniles)
- 3/15/10 - 5015 Tupelo -
Vehicle Fire - Suspicious
- 3/15/10 - 6155 Eastex -
Electrical Short
- 3/16/10 - 1075 Georgia -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental - Cooking Fire
3/16/10 - 4095 Willie
Mae - Structure Fire -
Arson
- 3/17/10 - 560 Buford -
Structure Fire -
- Accidental
- 3/17/10 - 258 Berkshire -

- Structure Fire - Accidental -
Child with lighter
- 3/17/10 - 3525 Grayson -
Structure Fire - Accidental -
Cooking Fire 3/17/10 - 4171
Dowlen Rd - Molotov
Cocktail
- 3/17/10 - 1596 Pipkin -
Structure Fire - Accidental
- 3/18/10 - 3130 Yasmine Dior
- Structure Fire - Arson
- 3/18/10 - 3745 IH 10 S -
Commercial Structure Fire -
Homewood Suites - Arson
- 3/18/10 - 110 IH 10 S -
Vehicle Fire Accidental
- 3/19/10 - 2550 W. Virginia
Odom Academy Child with a
lighter
- 3/21/10 - 1320 Pennsylvania
Commercial Structure Fire -
Accidental - light on roof
- 3/21/10 - 2250 Avenue A
Structure Fire - Accidental -
light in hay
- 3/21/10 - 6105 Eastex Frwy -
Brush Fire
- 3/22/10 - 2651 S. 11th
Commercial Structure Fire -
Bingo Hall - Arson
- 3/23/10 - 4840 Rice Circle
Structure Fire - Accidental -
Heater
- 3/23/10 - 4095 Woodlawn -
Unauthorized Burning
- 3/26/10 - 2005 Magnolia
Commercial Structure Fire
Accidental
- 3/27/10 - 5030 Hwy 69 S -
Vehicle Fire - Accidental
- 3/27/10 - 3030 French Rd -
Commercial Structure Fire -
Raintree Towers - Accidental
cooking
- 3/29/10 - 7775 Coburn -
Attempted Arson
- 3/31/10 - 2950 S. 8th -
Sprinkler Activation
- 3/31/10 - 160 13th - Sprinkler

Activation

Public Education & Information Update:

Captain Brad Penisson, Program Manager

During this month, there were 4 fire and safety programs conducted with an attendance of 179 persons. Personnel also participated in Career Days at West Brook and Central High Schools.

Captain Penisson recorded a public safety program with Channel 34 which will be aired several times during April.

All personnel from Community Risk Reduction Division participated as volunteers at the YMBL Youth Day Rodeo for Special Children.

Operations personnel need to remember that if they find that their unit was assigned a report in Firehouse that they did not respond to (cancelled before they left the station), they need to send an e-mail to Captain Penisson to have the report deleted.

Attached to this report is a record of the responses received through the citizen surveys from March 2010.

Fire Museum of Texas Update:

During the month of March, the Fire Museum of Texas had a total of 521 visitors. Of those, 64 were from Beaumont, 65 from the Golden Triangle, 160 from the State of Texas, and 218 from across the United States. There were also 14 international visitors from Canada, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

Carol attended the Texas Historical Commission Visionaries meeting on March 16 at the John J. French Museum and is looking

forward to the next several months of working with the committee. Eighty visitors from Arkadelphia, Arkansas enjoyed a sit down dinner at the Fire Museum as part of their Mystery Tour with Francis Custom Tours on March 24.

Carol is still working with the Webmaster to launch the new website. It should be ready very soon. Facebook fans continue to grow and fans have started posting photos to the site. The Board will meet on April 15 at noon. We expect an increase in school tours in April and May.

We received a generous grant this month for \$2,000 from Entergy to help repair and restore the theater in the Children's Activity Center.

Special thanks to all the local sponsors, donors, volunteers and 112 golfers who participated in the first Annual Fire Fighter Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, March 27, 2010, at Iron Oaks Golf Club. AAA Flood Masters, Monument Roofing Systems, Keller Williams Real Estate, Beaumont Community Credit Union, Howell Furniture, Chuck's Wrecker, Judge Ransom "Duce" Jones, Long Architects, Martin Apparatus, Chili's and Neches Federal Credit Union helped make the event a huge success. The Golf Tournament raised \$18,000, after expenses, for the State of Texas Fire Fighter Memorial. Thanks to the LIT Cadets and all the volunteers including Debra Smith, Glenda Tristan, Captain Brad Penisson, C-Shift Station 5, B-Shift Station 5, Thomas Galavis, Chris Jagoe, Brandon Williams, Ryan Aguirre, Brian Droptini, Adrian Stuart,

Chief Ivan Bertrand, James Gillard, Carl Whitehead, and the Metz family who helped the planning committee execute a fabulous event. The committee was led by Chief Jack Maddox, Chief Chris Singler, Captain Charlie Cox and Captain Ted Hillin.

April events will include a Sizzling Day at Chili's on Professional Administrative Assistant's Day! Wednesday, April 21, from 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., the public has been invited to meet and greet Beaumont Professional Fire Fighters Local #399 as they serve as celebrity waiters offering up a menu of delicious specials, including free chips and hot sauce. A portion of the sales is generously being donated by Chili's to help build the State of Texas Fire Fighter Memorial. Chili's is located at 110 I-H 10 South.

It is time for the Fourth Annual National 31 cent Scoop Night at Baskin-Robbins on Wednesday, April 28, from 5:00 until 10:00 p.m., honoring our local Fire Fighters. Beaumont Professional Fire Fighters Local #399 will be on hand at Baskin Robbins, located at 4030 Dowlen Road, scooping up delicious ice cream and offering families free fire prevention & safety tips. Visitors won't want to miss this opportunity to take photos with local heroes and their fire engine. All proceeds and tips from the event will go directly to the State of Texas Fire Fighter Memorial Fund.

Certification & Training

The Training Division was busy most of March working on the driver certification program and preparing for the upcoming Firehouse training classes. The influx of new members has left the Operations Division a little short on promotable swing members to fill in as

driver/operators. Captain Arrington spent the better part of the month performing driver benchmark training and testing with those currently enrolled in the driver program to help address these shortages. At the same time, Captain Lee has been working closely with the Medical Committee to put the finishing touches on the updated Firehouse training program that is scheduled to start in April.

Officer Development & Occupational Safety Training

Update:

Chief Keith Nolen, Programs Manager

For March Officer Development Training, Pat Grimes attended the L-956 All Hazards Liaison Officer class. The monthly SOG review consisted of 205.06.

Requests for officer development training for the month included: Pat Grimes to attend "EOC Operations and Interface" on April 20-23; Pat Grimes to attend "2010 Texas Hurricane Conference."

Emergency Medical Training Update:

Acting Captain Brandon Lee, Program Manager

There were six certifications received this month for EMS Instructor I (Marcus Rogers, Ryan Jones, Dan Marberry, Bill Lambert, Chris Jagoe, and Clem Steinbrickner).

For continuing EMS certification and self development, the Training Division assigned and documented the following class:

Pulse: "Respiratory Management of the Morbidly Obese"

The monthly EMS SOG review consisted of 203.01C.

Firefighter Training Update:
Captain Randy Arrington, Program Manager

For continuing firefighter education and self development, the Training Division assigned and documented the following FETN (Fire and Emergency Training Network) classes:

- “Building Construction Pt. 1”
- “Aircraft Cargo Hazards Pt. 2”

The hands-on benchmark training for the month consisted of Firefighter Benchmarks 58-65.

Requests for firefighter training for the month included: three members to attend “Firefighter Rehab and Medical Monitoring” on April 22.

Driver/Operator Training Update:

Captain Randy Arrington, Program Manager

This month, there were two dates where driver training was conducted at the BEST complex for eight members. Various driver benchmarks were conducted with more training scheduled for future dates. Five new members (Gavin Henderson, Steven Hilton, Bryan Droptini, Casey Sanders, and Brandon Williams) were enrolled in the Driver Program this month and this brings the total current enrollment to 15 members. Congratulations go out to three members who completed the Driver Certification Program this month. Reggie Basha completed both the Pumper & Aerial program, while Sean Hardy and Travis Roy both completed the Pumper Certification portion.

The hands-on benchmark

training for the month consisted of Driver/Operator Benchmarks 404.01B & 404.02F.

Hazardous Materials Training Update:

Captain Randy Arrington, Program Manager

For continuing Hazmat education and self development, the Training Division assigned and documented the following FETN (Fire and Emergency Training Network) class:

American Heat: Large Scale Hazmat “El Dorado Chemical Fire”

Technical Rescue Training Update:

Acting Captain Brandon Lee, Program Manager

The RIG committee is in the process of wrapping up the Phase II training and a follow up of the Phase I training for the new hires. The group did an excellent job putting the classroom material together along with the practical skills evolutions. Members participating in the training got a great opportunity to work with the equipment and the tactics to practice the drills in a controlled learning environment. This training is some of the best training our Department has put together and everyone involved in both teaching and participation deserves our thanks for a job well done.

C o m m u n i c a t i o n s & Preparedness Planning

The most recent change in the Communications Division involved personnel. Captain Timothy Byerly has transferred to Fire Station 2, Firefighter Edward Byerly is in training to become a Communications Operator, and Firefighter Clem

Stinebrickner is preparing to transfer to Fire Prevention.

With all the technology we have in use, there is still the need for backup or redundancy. For example, although the MCTs are designed to update progress, a verbal report will ensure there is a backup record of the account. It provides an audible alert to the Communications Operator, if pre-occupied. If there is a technical failure, the verbal report would be recorded. Having the MCT does not replace a verbal report, but it is a supplement to communication. Remember to always provide verbal communication along with any communication being transmitted via MCT. This includes alerting the receiver of a message being sent through the MCTs message system.

The Beaumont Fire/Rescue Communication Division managed a total of 7,413 calls and created 2,834 events for the month of March. The total fire incidents were 1,390 with 68% being first responder calls and 14% were private fire alarms. Fire/Rescue responded to 53 one-alarm incidents and 149 motor vehicle accidents during the month. Data indicates an average response time for the first apparatus on the scene of a structure fire as being three minutes and forty-two seconds. The average dispatch time was twenty-eight seconds.

Total after hour calls for Traffic, Streets, Building Maintenance and Parks were 53:

| | |
|--------------|----|
| Traffic | 25 |
| Streets | 22 |
| Bldg. Maint. | 5 |
| Parks | 1 |

The update on the Epic system is that a simpler device, called the Epic Voice Amplifier, is being

field tested by Fire Station 2. It is a smaller version of the voice amplification device involved with the Epic Blue Tooth. The system does not involve the blue tooth technology and only pertains to a single device that attaches to the side of the face piece. It is designed to provide better person-to-person communication within close quarters of each other. So far, the response has been fair or mediocre, but everyone agrees that it is better than not having an enhancer.

Emergency Management:

Captain Pat Grimes, Program Manager

Currently, a list of special needs registrants is being compiled and updated in preparation for hurricane season. This is a lengthy, tedious, but extremely necessary task. The process takes place year-round but has more emphasis during the spring months.

Out of 4,176 fire hydrants, there are 35 out-of-service in the City.

The 727th Sabine Neches Chief's Association meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 3, at the Rockin A Café. There were 82 people in attendance. The USCG gave a very informative presentation on the recent ship collision incident in Port Arthur.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting was held March 17, 2010 at Rock n A Café. The meeting was called to order and the welcome was given by Chair Ray Chesson.

Membership discussed the

need for Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) information being available on a website. VOAD now has over 18 of local area volunteer organizations (Red Cross, Catholic Charities, SETX Food Bank, etc.). These organizations respond and provide support during area emergencies. Support was expressed for paying the annual fee, no greater than \$300.00 for access on a website.

Other discussion at the LEPC meeting involved support for the digital billboard campaign and proposed EPA/LEPC Emergency Notification/Preparedness workshops.

Captain Grimes attended the Liaison Officer (LO) Class in College Station on March 25-26. This is a State-sponsored class that prepares students to be LO's in their community and for the State Incident Management Teams. An LO is responsible for establishing relationships with participating agencies and is expected to communicate effectively with these agencies and to bring their concerns to the Incident Commander/Unified Command. The mission of the LO is to provide the point of contact for representatives of assisting and cooperating agencies and to respond to requests or concerns from stakeholder groups. The LO addresses inter-organizational issue and brings issues and concerns to the attention of the Incident Commander with a recommended course-of-action.

**Beaumont Fire Department
Authorized Staffing and Vacancies
03/31/10**

Sworn Personnel

| Grade | Classification | Allocated | Actual | Proposed |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| I | Firefighter | 100 | 96 | 100 |
| II | Engineer | 72 | 71 | 72 |
| III | Captain | 46 | 46 | 47 |
| IV | District Chief | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| V | Deputy Chief | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| VI | Assistant Chief | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Fire Chief | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | | 235 | 230 | 236 |

Vacancies 0

****5 Grade I Vacancies on Freeze**

Civilian Personnel

| Division | Classification | Allocated | Actual | Proposed |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Administration | Fire Administrator | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Administrative Assistant | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Secretary II | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | Laborer (P/T) | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Operations | Secretary I | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Risk Reduction | Secretary I | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Fire Museum Director | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Training | Secretary I | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | | 11 | 9 | 11 |

Vacancies 2 (1 Sec I on hold)

Survey Responses: March 2010

Question

1. Was the 911 system prompt?
2. Was the 911 operator courteous and helpful?
3. Did the fire department respond promptly?
4. Were the fire department personnel courteous?
5. Were the fire department personnel helpful?
6. Did the fire department personnel take the time to explain their actions?
7. Were the firefighters professional in their appearance?
8. After the fire department left, did you feel you received the service that you expected?

| Ratings 1=Excellent 6=Poor | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | No Response |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | |

Total Surveys Received

13

Citizen Comments:

Report# 10-001261-A” Shift-Med Call-They were all very understanding and courteous. They tried to calm me and I’m old. They were very helpful when we got to St. E. They did their jobs very well. Thank You, Mrs. G

Report# 10-0032625-“B” Shift-Med Call-Excellent! They were there in under a minute. They treated my grandmother with respect and were great at explaining their actions and comforting her. Thank you so much!

Report# 10-003415-“C” Shift-Smoke Scare-Excellent Service. Thanks and God Bless, Retondra Ambers.

Report# 10-003339-“B” Shift-The Fire Department extinguished the fire in the attic without getting any of the lower home damaged. The only damage to the lower part of the home was a 10 X 10 hole in the bathroom ceiling. Thanks Gerald W. Bailey

Report# 10-003438-“A” Shift-Building Fire-Thanks so much for everything! Great job Guys!

Report# 10-003484-“B” Shift-Building Fire-Thank God the fire dept. showed up promptly. They saved our house, God Bless and Thanks!

Report# 10-003511-“B” Shift-Building Fire-Thanks for what you do!

Report# 10-003541-“C” Shift-Overheated Computer Hard Drive-Very good job, very good men.

Report# 10-003583-“A” Shift-Med Call-The guys/girls were incredible-it was our first experience with the symptoms Helen incurred. Very difficult to give credible info but they tackled the problem like the pros they are. Keep trying, but you could never improve the service we received today. Thank you ain’t strong enough, Helen Kuhn. SEE ATTACHED LETTER

Report# 10-003654-“C” Shift-Electrical Short-Everyone was very professional and we could not have asked for any better help.

Report# 10-003907-“B” Shift-Light Ballast-I called the non-emergency fire department #. They were very courteous and units were on the premise promptly. Luckily there was no fire, only the odor of something burning. They found the problem and put our concerns to rest. Thanks

| DATE | DAY | SHIFT | PERSONNEL ASSIGNED | KELLY DAY | DAILY ASSIGNED STAFFING | FULL TIME EQUIVALENT | RR & *UP REGULAR & UPGRADE HOURS | FO OVERTIME HOURS | CF COMP EARNED HOURS | OFF-DUTY HOURS |
|-----------|-----------|-------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1-Mar-10 | Monday | A | 66 | 9 | 57 | 47.33 | 1136.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 240.00 |
| 2-Mar-10 | Tuesday | B | 70 | 9 | 61 | 48.00 | 1152.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 240.00 |
| 3-Mar-10 | Wednesday | C | 65 | 9 | 56 | 44.04 | 914.00 | 143.00 | 0.00 | 381.00 |
| 4-Mar-10 | Thursday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.02 | 1019.00 | 37.50 | 0.00 | 325.00 |
| 5-Mar-10 | Friday | B | 70 | 8 | 62 | 44.00 | 992.00 | 64.00 | 0.00 | 352.00 |
| 6-Mar-10 | Saturday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 44.00 | 912.00 | 144.00 | 0.00 | 456.00 |
| 7-Mar-10 | Sunday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.00 | 1056.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 288.00 |
| 8-Mar-10 | Monday | B | 70 | 10 | 60 | 44.71 | 997.00 | 76.00 | 0.00 | 369.00 |
| 9-Mar-10 | Tuesday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 45.02 | 1045.50 | 35.00 | 0.00 | 346.50 |
| 10-Mar-10 | Wednesday | A | 66 | 11 | 55 | 44.00 | 1021.00 | 35.00 | 0.00 | 323.00 |
| 11-Mar-10 | Thursday | B | 70 | 10 | 60 | 44.00 | 1005.00 | 51.00 | 0.00 | 363.00 |
| 12-Mar-10 | Friday | C | 65 | 8 | 57 | 45.52 | 1092.00 | 0.50 | 0.00 | 360.00 |
| 13-Mar-10 | Saturday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.00 | 1008.00 | 24.00 | 24.00 | 336.00 |
| 14-Mar-10 | Sunday | B | 70 | 10 | 60 | 46.00 | 1104.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 264.00 |
| 15-Mar-10 | Monday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 44.00 | 1044.00 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 408.00 |
| 16-Mar-10 | Tuesday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.00 | 1056.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 336.00 |
| 17-Mar-10 | Wednesday | B | 70 | 8 | 62 | 44.00 | 1056.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 336.00 |
| 18-Mar-10 | Thursday | C | 65 | 9 | 56 | 47.00 | 1128.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 276.00 |
| 19-Mar-10 | Friday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.00 | 1000.00 | 56.00 | 0.00 | 360.00 |
| 20-Mar-10 | Saturday | B | 70 | 10 | 60 | 44.00 | 1032.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 336.00 |
| 21-Mar-10 | Sunday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 46.00 | 1104.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 312.00 |
| 22-Mar-10 | Monday | A | 66 | 9 | 57 | 45.58 | 1090.50 | 3.50 | 0.00 | 296.50 |
| 23-Mar-10 | Tuesday | B | 70 | 9 | 61 | 47.00 | 1128.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 288.00 |
| 24-Mar-10 | Wednesday | C | 65 | 9 | 56 | 45.00 | 1080.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 336.00 |
| 25-Mar-10 | Thursday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.65 | 973.00 | 98.50 | 0.00 | 392.00 |
| 26-Mar-10 | Friday | B | 70 | 8 | 62 | 44.00 | 1041.00 | 15.00 | 0.00 | 351.00 |
| 27-Mar-10 | Saturday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 44.00 | 1018.00 | 38.00 | 0.00 | 422.00 |
| 28-Mar-10 | Sunday | A | 66 | 10 | 56 | 44.02 | 1008.00 | 48.50 | 0.00 | 336.00 |
| 29-Mar-10 | Monday | B | 70 | 10 | 60 | 46.88 | 1125.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 291.00 |
| 30-Mar-10 | Tuesday | C | 65 | 10 | 55 | 46.67 | 1120.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 344.00 |
| 31-Mar-10 | Wednesday | A | 66 | 11 | 55 | 44.00 | 1005.00 | 51.00 | 0.00 | 363.00 |
| | Total | | | | | 1393.44 | 32462.00 | 956.50 | 24.00 | 10427.00 |
| | Average | | | | | 44.95 | 1047.16 | 30.85 | 0.77 | 336.35 |

| | | VV & VF | SK & SF | RJ & FJ | RI & WF | WC | EF & EL | FL | RA | CU | MF | PP |
|----------------|-------|----------|---------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| DATE | SHIFT | VACATION | SICK | OFF DUTY INJURY | ON-DUTY INJURY | WORKMAN'S COMP W/O PAY | EMERGENCY FAMILY LEAVE | FUNERAL LEAVE | OFF CITY BUSINESS | COMP TIME OFF | MILITARY LEAVE | PERSONAL LEAVE |
| | | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS | HOURS |
| 1-Mar-10 | A | 144.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24 |
| 2-Mar-10 | B | 180.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 36.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 3-Mar-10 | C | 140.00 | 96.00 | 24.00 | 97.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24 |
| 4-Mar-10 | A | 216.00 | 99.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 5-Mar-10 | B | 216.00 | 112.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0 |
| 6-Mar-10 | C | 192.00 | 144.00 | 0.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 7-Mar-10 | A | 168.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 8-Mar-10 | B | 177.00 | 123.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 9.00 | 0.00 | 12 |
| 9-Mar-10 | C | 192.00 | 70.50 | 0.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 10-Mar-10 | A | 216.00 | 54.00 | 0.00 | 20.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 9.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 11-Mar-10 | B | 240.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 12-Mar-10 | C | 216.00 | 96.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 13-Mar-10 | A | 240.00 | 36.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0 |
| 14-Mar-10 | B | 216.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 15-Mar-10 | C | 240.00 | 106.00 | 0.00 | 25.00 | 13.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24 |
| 16-Mar-10 | A | 216.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 17-Mar-10 | B | 192.00 | 96.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 18-Mar-10 | C | 192.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 19-Mar-10 | A | 264.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 20-Mar-10 | B | 240.00 | 96.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 21-Mar-10 | C | 240.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 22-Mar-10 | A | 240.00 | 29.00 | 0.00 | 3.50 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 23-Mar-10 | B | 216.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 24-Mar-10 | C | 192.00 | 116.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 4.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 25-Mar-10 | A | 264.00 | 48.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 26-Mar-10 | B | 180.00 | 99.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24 |
| 27-Mar-10 | C | 204.00 | 72.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 24.00 | 14.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 36 |
| 28-Mar-10 | A | 216.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 24.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 29-Mar-10 | B | 171.00 | 96.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 30-Mar-10 | C | 144.00 | 96.00 | 0.00 | 48.00 | 24.00 | 8.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 31-Mar-10 | A | 192.00 | 147.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Total | | 6356.00 | 2407.50 | 24.00 | 505.50 | 65.00 | 529.00 | 144.00 | 12.00 | 204.00 | 36.00 | 144.00 |
| Average | | 205.03 | 77.66 | 0.77 | 16.31 | 2.10 | 17.06 | 4.65 | 0.39 | 6.58 | 1.16 | 4.65 |



